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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P212951PCT jdo	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/IL 03/00523	International filing date (day/month/year) 19.06.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 20.06.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC E05B27/00		
Applicant MUL-T-LOCK TECHNOLOGIES LTD.		

1. This International preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I Basis of the opinion
 - II Priority
 - III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV Lack of unity of invention
 - V Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI Certain documents cited
 - VII Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 15.01.2004	Date of completion of this report 25.10.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer Westin, K Telephone No. +31 70 340-2635



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/IL 03/00523**

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, Pages

1-15 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-8 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/6-6/6 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:
- the drawings, sheets:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/IL 03/00523**

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-8
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-8
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-8
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/IL 03/00523

Re Item V

- **Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

2.1 Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: US-A-5 123 268 (EIZEN NOACH) 23 June 1992 (1992-06-23) cited in the application
- D2: US-A-5 520 035 (EIZEN NOACH ET AL) 28 May 1996 (1996-05-28) cited in the application
- D3: US-A-2 629 249 (MENDELSON BERNARD E) 24 February 1953 (1953-02-24)
- D4: US-A-2 283 489 (PAUL CROUSORE RALPH) 19 May 1942 (1942-05-19)
- D5: US-A-4 577 479 (WIDEN BO) 25 March 1986 (1986-03-25)
- D6: US-A-2 202 329 (SHOLOM BRAUNE) 28 May 1940 (1940-05-28)

2.2 Document D1 discloses an anti-picking cylinder lock according to the preamble of claim 1. The features of the characterising portion of the claim are however not known from D1, and the subject-matter of claim 1 is thus new (Article 33(2) PCT).

2.3 The problem/goal to which the present invention is directed can be considered as to improve the pick resistance of the lock.

2.4 The use of telescopic pin assemblies as in D1 or D2 (fig.4) is a well known way to achieve a certain degree of pick resistance. Another very well known measure for increasing the pick resistance of cylinder locks is to provide an inner facing recess in the pin tumbler channel such that a portion of the plug pin or the body pin enters into the recess in case of attempted picking. Examples of such constructions are known e.g. from documents D3, D4, D5 and D6. The anti-picking features described in the characterising portion of claim 1 are thus known, per se.

2.5 The use of telescopic pins as in D1 (and D2) can be considered to offer a high pick resistance. If the skilled person would start from document D1 and thereby nevertheless would experience that the pick security is not high enough, then he would look for ways to further improve the security. He would then certainly consider the principle shown in D3-D6, since this is one of the most, if not the most commonly used method for increasing the pick resistance. Such an arrangement is first of all easy to incorporate into the lock of D1. The only thing needed is a recess in the bore of the

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/IL 03/00523

- tumbler pins and a portion on the pin which can enter such a recess. No other reconstruction of the lock in D1 would be necessary. It appears furthermore that it would be immediately obvious for the skilled person that a recess/pin-portion as in D3-D6 could be applied to either or both of the inner and outer pins in the lock of D1. The combination of telescopic pins and recess/pin-portion furthermore appears to be a mere juxtaposition of two well known ways to increase pick resistance, and this combination does not seem to result in any unexpected additional effects (Guidelines 13.05 and 13.14(d)).

2.6 The skilled person would consequently arrive at a lock according to claim 1 without inventive skill (Article 33(3) PCT).

2.7 Dependent claims 2-8 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of inventive step, since they all relate to well known constructional details.